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FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE (QUARTER)

December 2010

Release Date

21 February 2011

NOTE

State and Regional Indicators, Victoria provides a summary of statistical information for Victoria at the state and/or regional level. Statistical highlights are included in each chapter, along with commentary, graphs and maps on selected indicators.

The statistics presented in this issue are the latest available as at 4 November 2010, with one exception. The table containing quarterly agricultural production data is presented on a common reference period for all data items. Live sheep exports data for September quarter 2010 were available at this date, but they have not been included as the remaining data in the table were not yet available for that period.

Please address feedback to:

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CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

State and Regional Indicators, Victoria is released on a quarterly basis with chapters updated when new data are available. Chapters and tables are only included when new data are available, so the number of chapters and tables may vary between issues.

Featured in this issue are animated population pyramids for Victorian local government areas. This issue also contains a spotlight on Children's participation in organised sport and dancing, Victoria.

'Condition of VicRoads Network, By Local Government Area - 2007-08' was expected to be published in this issue of the publication, however the data are not yet available.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Explanatory notes in the form found in other ABS publications are not included in **State and Regional Indicators, Victoria**. For detailed information on the statistics, users are directed to the Explanatory notes contained in related ABS publications.

Users are advised that small area estimates presented in this publication should be used with care.

Due to rounding, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals in individual tables, and between totals in related tables.

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Chris George on Melbourne (03) 9615 7224.

SUMMARY COMMENTARY

List of Historical Feature Articles

Document content:

For issues prior to September 2007, feature articles are only available as part of the original PDF publication and the links below will open the applicable PDF publication.

For issues since September 2007, feature articles are available in HTML format. Up until the March 2009 issue, the articles can also be accessed as part of the original PDF publication.

Issue	Title
Jun 2010	Water and Energy Efficiency Elements of Households in Older and Newer Dwellings
Dec 2009	Living Arrangements of Victorians, 2006 — A Study of Diversity and Change Across the Life Courses
Jun 2009	Surplus Bedrooms in Melbourne Homes
Mar 2009	Measuring Victoria's Population
Sep 2008	Victorian Household Preparedness for Emergencies
Jun 2008	Adult Literacy and Life Skills
Mar 2008	Workplace Growth in Victoria 2000-2007
Dec 2007	Child Care Usage in Victoria
Sep 2007	2006 Census: Regional Victoria in Profile
Jun 2007	Water — Sources and Usages
Jun 2007	Personal Safety Survey
Mar 2007	Workplace Growth 2003–2005
Dec 2006	Waste and Recycling
Sep 2006	Trends in Fertility
Jun 2006	Indigenous Vital Statistics
Mar 2006	Victorian Community Indicators
Dec 2005	Profile of Seniors in Victorians
Sep 2005	The Victorian Population 1836–2005
Jun 2005	Criminal Court Outcomes 2003–2004
Sep 2004	Summary of Findings from the 2002 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey
Jun 2004	Building Activity and Interest Rates

Mar 2004	Children aged 0-8 years in Victoria
Sep 2003	Estimating Workplace Growth from Workcover data
Jun 2003	Housing Trends in Melbourne 1999–2002
Sep 2002	Population Change in Victoria, 1991–2001
Jun 2002	2001 Census Geography Issues
Mar 2002	Part-time Employment in Victoria

About this Release

State and Regional Indicators, Victoria (SRIV) is a quarterly publication that contains recently released statistical information about the whole of Victoria. Data is sourced from ABS and non-ABS collections. It provides measures according to a triple bottom line of economic, social and environment elements.

Most chapters contain a mix of tables, charts and commentary, to provide a basic analysis of recent movements in key economic, social and environmental data. Data is presented for varying geographic classifications, including, Victoria; Melbourne and the Balance of Victoria; down to Local Government Area for some series. The aim of the publication is to provide a picture of the situation of Victoria and enable comparison, both over time and between regions.

Core data, such as Estimated Resident Population, State Final Demand, Labour Force Statistics, Price Indexes, Building Approvals, Air Quality, and Water Storage Volumes is complemented by periodic annual data including the Condition of VicRoads Network, Recorded Crime Offences, Life Expectancy at Birth, Government Owned Housing Stock and others.

As the information is sourced from a wide variety of collections, care needs to be taken when analysing the data as time periods, definitions, methodologies, scope and coverage may differ from table to table. Advice is provided in the publication on such matters.

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SPOTLIGHT ON:

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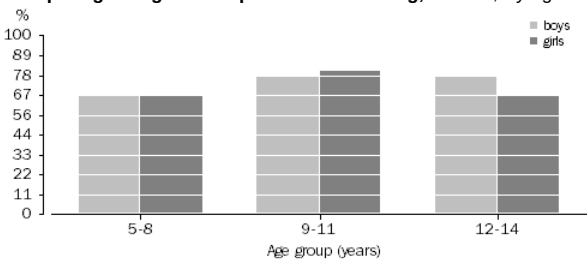
CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION IN ORGANISED SPORT AND DANCING, VICTORIA

This article focuses on participation in organised sport and selected leisure activities including dancing, for children who usually reside in Victoria. Dancing has been included in this article because it is a popular organised physical activity for girls. All data presented is from the 2009 survey of Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities (cat. no. 4901.0) conducted throughout Australia as part of the Australian Bureau of Statistics' Monthly Population Survey. The survey collected information on participation of children aged 5 to 14 years in selected organised sports outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview, and on participation in selected leisure activities outside of school hours during the most recent two school weeks prior to interview. Please note that all data and totals presented in the following article are for Victoria, only.

Sex and age

In 2009, almost three quarters (475,800 or 72%) of children aged 5 to 14 years in Victoria participated in at least one organised sport (including dancing) outside of school hours (during the 12 months prior to interview) that had been organised by a school, club or association. Participation rates in organised sports for boys and girls varied across the age groups. Overall the participation rate was higher for boys than girls (73% and 71% respectively), with the largest difference being in the age group 12 to 14 years (77% and 67% respectively). In the age group 9 to 11 years, girls had a higher participation rate than boys (80% and 77% respectively) while participation rates for boys and girls aged 5 to 8 were the same (both 67%). Overall, children aged 9 to 11 years had the highest participation rate (79%) followed by children aged 12 to 14 years (72%) and children aged 5 to 8 years (67%).

Children participating in organised sport and/or dancing, Victoria, By age and sex-2009



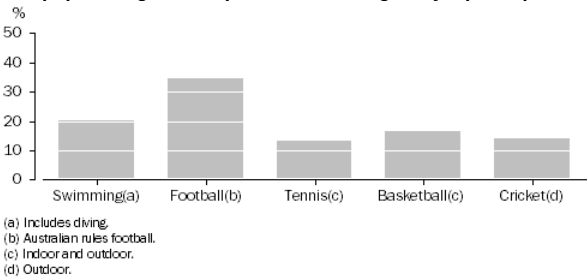
Source: Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities, Australia, April 2009 (cat. no. 4901.0).

Most popular organised sports

In 2009, the most popular sport for children aged 5 to 14 years in Victoria was swimming with a participation rate of 23%, followed by Australian rules football (19%) and dancing (15%). In the article, the most popular sport is defined to be the one with the highest participation rate.

The most popular sport for boys was Australian rules football (35%), followed by swimming (20%) and indoor/outdoor basketball (17%). Dancing (27%) was the most popular physical activity for girls followed by swimming (25%) and netball (19%).

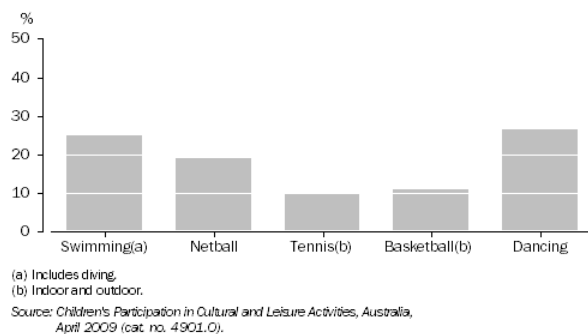
Participation in most popular organised sports and dancing - Boys, participation rate, Victoria-2009



(a) Includes diving.
(b) Australian rules football.
(c) Indoor and outdoor.
(d) Outdoor.

Source: Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities, Australia, April 2009 (cat. no. 4901.0).

Participation in most popular organised sports and dancing - Girls, participation rate, Victoria-2009

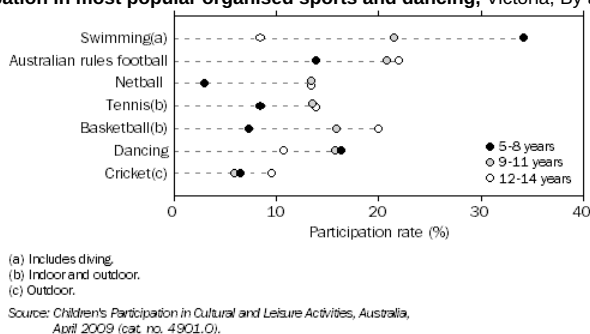


Swimming (34%) was the most popular sport among Victorian children aged 5 to 8 years.

For children aged 9 to 11 years, swimming (22%) was also the most popular sport, followed by Australian rules football (21%) and indoor and outdoor basketball (16%).

Australian rules football was the most popular sport for children aged 12 to 14 years with a participation rate of 22% followed by basketball (indoor and outdoor) (20%) and tennis, both indoor and outdoor (14%).

Participation in most popular organised sports and dancing, Victoria, By age-2009



Selected other activities

Information on children's participation in a range of selected activities other than organised sport and dancing in the two weeks prior to the survey (outside of school hours), was also collected. During that two week period the selected activities with the highest participation rates for children aged 5 to 14 in Victoria were:

- 96% (636,000) of children had watched television, DVDs or videos
- 84% (554,000) of children had spent time on other screen-based activities, such as using the computer or Internet, playing games on a games console or mobile phone, and creating music playlists or viewing photos on an MP3 player
- 78% (513,200) of children had done homework or other study.

The participation rates for selected other activities varied across the different age groups. Children's participation in skateboarding, rollerblading or riding a scooter was higher for 5 to 8 year olds (57%), however, was comparatively lower (26%) for 12 to 14 year olds. Bike riding was also lower in the older age groups (75% for 5 to 8 years olds and 54% for 12 to 14 year olds).

Nearly two-thirds (64%) of children aged 5 to 8 years participated in art and crafts while the participation rate was 24% for children aged 12 to 14 years. In contrast, children's participation in other screen-based activities was 75% for children aged 5 to 8 years compared with 90% for children aged 12 to 14 years. A higher proportion of children in the 12 to 14 age group participated in homework or other study compared to children aged 5 to 8 (89 % and 64 % respectively).

1.1 Children participating in selected other activities(a), Victoria, By age - 2009

Selected other activities	Number ('000)				Participation rate (%)			
	5-8 years	9-11 years	12-14 years	Total	5-8 years	9-11 years	12-14 years	Total
Skateboarding, rollerblading or riding a scooter	148.8	106.3	52.0	307.1	57	54	26	47
Bike riding	193.9	129.6	109.8	433.4	75	65	54	66
Watching TV, DVDs or videos	246.8	192.2	197.1	636.0	95	97	97	96
Other screen-based activities(b)	193.6	176.9	183.5	554.0	75	89	90	84
Art and craft	166.7	91.9	49.7	308.3	64	46	24	47
Reading for pleasure	179.9	153.8	139.9	473.7	69	78	69	72
Homework or other study for school	165.2	166.2	181.9	513.2	64	84	89	78

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in selected other activities outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.

(b) Any screen-based activities aside from watching TV, DVDs and videos. This may include, but is not limited to, using the computer or Internet, playing games on a games console or mobile phone, and creating music playlists or viewing photos on an MP3 player.

Source: Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities, Australia, April 2009 (cat. no. 4901.0).

While participation rates were similar for boys and girls for some leisure activities (eg. watching TV, DVDs and videos) they varied for others. Boys were more likely to participate in skateboarding, rollerblading or riding a scooter, 54% compared with 39% for girls. Boys also had a higher participation rate for bike riding when compared with girls (70% and 61% respectively) as well as for participation in other screen-based activities (87% and respectively 81%). In contrast, girls were more likely to participate in reading for pleasure (80%) and art and craft activities (59%) than boys (64% and 35% respectively).

1.2 Children participating in selected other activities(a), Victoria, By sex - 2009

Selected other activities	Number ('000)			Participation rate (%)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons

Skateboarding, rollerblading or riding a scooter	182.4	124.7	307.1	54	39	47
Bike riding	236.9	196.5	433.4	70	61	66
Watching TV, DVDs or videos	326.7	309.3	636.0	96	96	96
Other screen based activities(b)	293.6	260.4	554.0	87	81	84
Art and craft	119.8	188.4	308.3	35	59	47
Reading for pleasure	215.5	258.2	473.7	64	80	72
Homework or other study for school	255.2	258.0	513.2	75	80	78

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in selected other activities outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.

(b) Any screen-based activities aside from watching TV, DVDs and videos. This may include, but is not limited to, using the computer or Internet, playing games on a games console or mobile phone, and creating music playlists or viewing photos on an MP3 player.

Source: Children's Participation in Cultural Leisure Activities, Australia, April 2009 (cat. no. 4901.0).

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STATE COMPARISON

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SUMMARY OF STATISTICAL INDICATORS

This chapter summarises the change in key Victorian statistical indicators and compares them with the same statistical indicators for other states and Australia.

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: State comparison from the [Downloads Page](#).

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ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION

Victoria's estimated resident population (ERP) at the end of any given period is the estimated population at the beginning of the period plus the sum of three components: natural increase, net overseas migration and net interstate migration.

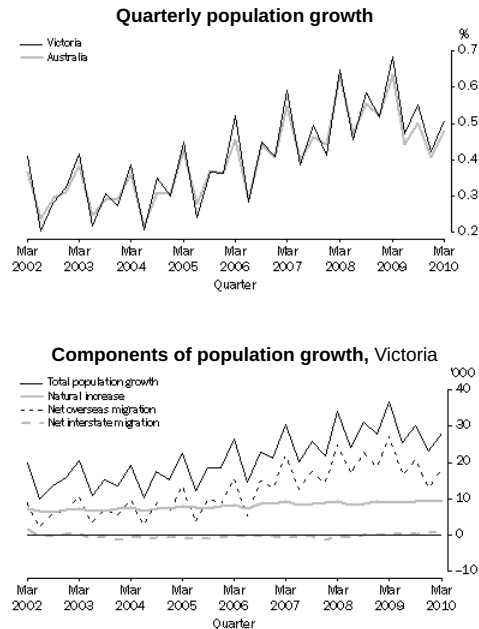
At the end of March quarter 2010, Victoria's ERP was 5,529,400 people, an increase of 28,100 (0.5%) since the end of December quarter 2009. Over the same period, Australia's ERP grew by 106,400 (0.5%).

Over the 12 months since the end of March quarter 2009, Victoria's ERP increased by 106,800 (2.0%).

The largest component of Victoria's population growth in March quarter 2010 was net overseas migration (a gain of 17,800 people). Natural increase (births minus deaths) accounted for a further increase of 9,300 people.

Net interstate migration has historically meant loss of population from Victoria to other state and territories. However, following eleven consecutive quarters of loss, net interstate migration made a positive contribution to the state's population during the latest five quarters. Among these five quarters, the largest contribution of net interstate migration (900 people) was in March quarter 2010.

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [Download Estimated resident population and Components of population change, Victoria from the Downloads Page.](#)



Summary commentary on population growth and distribution in Victoria and its regions can be found in [Regional Population Growth, Australia](#) (cat. no. 3218.0). This product contains estimates as at 30 June 2009 of the resident population at a sub-state level.

The most current estimates of the resident population of Victoria by single year of age and sex at 30 June 2009 can be found in [Australian Demographic Statistics](#) (cat. no. 3101.0). Further details on Victorian population by age and sex for 30 June 2009 by various Geographic classifications are available in [Population by Age and Sex, Regions of Australia](#) (cat. no. 3235.0).

Accessible via the Summary page of [Population by Age and Sex, Australian States and Territories](#) (cat. no. 3201.0) are the ABS animated population pyramids, which show the change in the age and sex distribution of the population of Australia and each state and territory over time and projected into the future. More detailed animated populations pyramids are available for Victoria in [Population Pyramids for Victorian Local Government Areas](#). These pyramids show the change each year from 1986 to 2009 in the age and sex distribution of the population of each Victorian local government area (LGA) in five year age groups.

A [feature article](#) explaining how the ABS derives ERP, and the role of the Victorian regional office in producing these estimates, was published in the March quarter 2009 issue of [State and Regional Indicators, Victoria](#).

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Australian historical population statistics

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AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL POPULATION STATISTICS

A wide range of demographic data is available in spreadsheet format (Microsoft Excel) in [Australian Historical Population Statistics](#) (cat. no. 3105.0.65.001). The product is updated periodically, and more up-to-date information may be available from the source products stated at the bottom of each spreadsheet.

The following topics are covered by the spreadsheets in 3105.0.65.001:

- Population size and growth
- Indigenous population
- Population distribution
- Population age-sex structure
- Births
- Deaths
- Life tables
- Migration
- Country of birth
- Overseas arrivals and departures
- Marriages
- Divorces

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Data Notes

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DATA NOTES

The data in this chapter are sourced directly from Victoria Police. The counts provided below relate to recorded offences, not offenders. Therefore, multiple offences committed by the same perpetrator are counted as separate recorded offences. Also, offences are recorded against the Local Government Area (LGA) in which they were committed rather than the offender's, or the victim's, place of usual residence. Recorded crime consists of those offences recorded on Victoria Police's Law Enforcement Assistance Program database during the reporting period, regardless of when the offence occurred or when it was reported to police. Figures must be used with caution as not all offences might be reported to the police. These statistics, sourced from Victoria Police, may differ from those presented in other ABS publications, such as [Recorded Crime](#) (cat. no. 4510.0) and [Recorded Crime - Offenders](#) (cat. no. 4519.0), due to different offence definitions and counting methodology (see Glossary and paragraphs 34-41 of the Explanatory Notes in [Recorded Crime](#) cat. no. 4510.0).

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Recorded Crime Offences

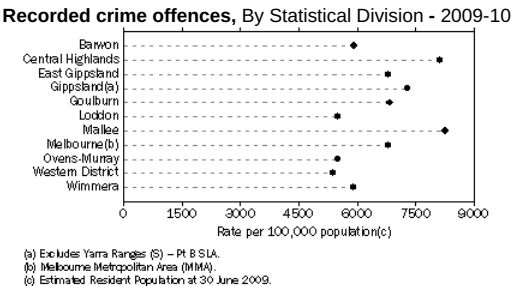
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RECORDED CRIME OFFENCES

Victoria recorded 366,367 crime offences during the 2009-10 financial year, a decrease of 13,882 (-3.7%) from the previous financial year. Although overall offences decreased, offences against the person increased by 3.2% from 2008-09 to 2009-10. The majority (71.1%) of offences recorded in 2009-10 occurred against property.

Data were provided by Victoria Police as aggregates at LGA level. As such, it is not possible to derive exact data for Melbourne and Gippsland Statistical Divisions (SDs) as Yarra Ranges LGA is split across these two SDs. In this chapter, Yarra Ranges LGA as a whole has been included with the other LGAs in Melbourne SD to form a region referred to as Melbourne Metropolitan Area (MMA). Consequently, Gippsland SD as presented, here excludes Yarra Ranges (S) - Pt B Statistical Local Area (SLA).

Recorded crime offence rates (per 100,000 population) were calculated using estimated resident population as at 30 June 2009 published in [Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2008-09](#) (cat. no. 3218.0). Mallee SD recorded the highest rate of crime offences - 8,255 per 100,000 population followed by Central Highlands SD (8,121) and Gippsland SD (7,275). The lowest rate was recorded in Western District SD (5,374), followed by Ovens-Murray (5,488) and Loddon (5,493).

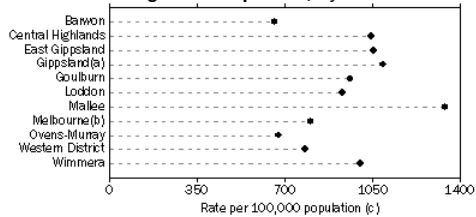


Individual statutory and common law offences are grouped into 27 offence categories by Victoria Police. These categories are further subdivided into four

general offence classes of 'crime against the person', 'crime against property', 'drug offences' and 'other crime'.

Crime against the person includes homicide, rape, sexual and related offences (non-rape), robbery, assault and abduction or kidnapping. The rate of crime offences against the person, per 100,000 of population, are presented in the chart below, for each Statistical Division.

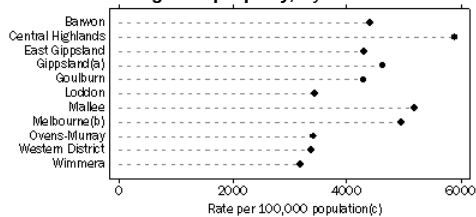
Recorded Crime offences against the person, By Statistical Division - 2009-10



(a) Excludes Yarra Ranges (S) - Pt B SLA.
(b) Melbourne Metropolitan Area (MMA).
(c) Estimated resident population at 30 June 2009.

The Victorian Police define crime against property as being arson, property damage, burglary (aggravated, residential or other), deception, handling of stolen goods, theft of or from a motor vehicle, shoplifting, theft of a bicycle or other theft. The rate of crime offences against property, per 100,000 of population, are presented in the chart below, for each Statistical Division.

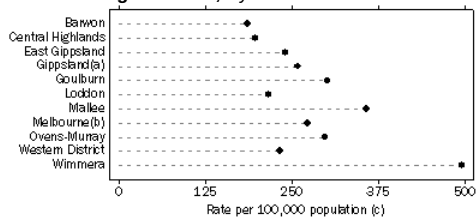
Recorded crime offences against property, By Statistical Divisions - 2009-10



(a) Excludes Yarra Ranges (S) - Pt B SLA.
(b) Melbourne Metropolitan Area (MMA).
(c) Estimated resident population at 30 June 2009.

Drug offences include the cultivation, manufacture, trafficking, possession or use of illegal drugs. The rate of drug offences, per 100,000 of population, are presented in the chart below, for each Statistical Division.

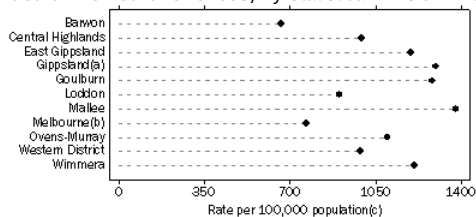
Recorded Drug Offences, By Statistical Division - 2009-10



(a) Excludes Yarra Ranges (S) - Pt B SLA.
(b) Melbourne Metropolitan Area (MMA).
(c) Estimated resident population at 30 June 2009.

'Other offences' includes: going equipped to steal, offences in justice procedures, offences against regulated public order, weapons or explosives offences, harassment and offences related to behaviour in public.

Recorded crime - other offences, By Statistical Division - 2009-10



(a) Excludes Yarra Ranges (S) - Pt B SLA.
(b) Melbourne Metropolitan Area (MMA).
(c) Estimated resident population at 30 June 2009.

Recorded Crime Offences by Local Government Area

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RECORDED CRIME OFFENCES BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

Crime offences by offence category are also available for each Local Government Area (LGA). To access the data, download *Recorded crime offences, By Local Government Area* from the [Downloads Page](#).

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ROAD TRAFFIC FATALITIES AND INJURIES

The data in this chapter are sourced directly from Victoria Police. Fatalities and injuries data are based on the Local Government Area (LGA) in which the accident occurred rather than the usual place of residence of the person(s) involved in the accident.

Data were provided by Victoria Police as aggregates at LGA level. It is not possible to derive exact data for Melbourne and Gippsland Statistical Divisions (SDs) as Yarra Ranges (S) LGA is split across these two SDs. In this chapter, Yarra Ranges (S) LGA as a whole has been included with the LGAs in the Melbourne SD to form a region referred to as Melbourne Metropolitan Area (MMA). Consequently, Gippsland SD as presented here excludes Yarra Ranges (S) - Pt B Statistical Local Area (SLA).

Victoria recorded 18,476 road traffic injuries during the 2009 calendar year, a decrease of 924 (4.8%) from the previous calendar year. In the MMA, traffic injuries decreased by 6.9%, whereas outside the MMA they increased by 0.2%.

Decreases in the number of road traffic injuries were observed in 43 LGAs between 2008 and 2009, with the largest decreases recorded in Kingston (C) (-151), Greater Dandenong (C) (-126) and Cardinia (S) (-81) LGAs.

Increases in the number of road traffic injuries were recorded in 32 LGAs over the same period, with the largest increase recorded in Whittlesea (C) (45) LGA, followed by Alpine (S) (44) and South Gippsland (S) (39) LGAs.

There were 290 road traffic fatalities in Victoria in 2009, a decrease of 13 (4.3%) compared with 2008. Around half (146 fatalities) were recorded in the MMA (22 less than in 2008), while the remaining 144 fatalities were recorded outside the MMA (an increase of 9 or 6.7%).

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: Download Road traffic fatalities and injuries, By Local Government Area from the [Downloads page](#).

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REVISIONS TO POPULATION BENCHMARKS

Labour force estimates in this issue have been compiled using population benchmarks that incorporate revisions made to Net Overseas Migration estimates, published in the September 2008 and September 2009 issues of Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0). The revised population benchmarks apply to the months of July 2006 to June 2010. For more information, refer to [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0).

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Labour Force Survey standard products and data item guide

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LABOUR FORCE SURVEY STANDARD PRODUCTS AND DATA ITEM GUIDE

In December 2009, the ABS released [Labour Force Survey Standard Products and Data Item Guide](#) (cat. no. 6103.0). This product itemises and cross references all data contained within the Labour Force Survey standard products (including geographic data items), with an explanation of each data item, including relevant formats, and product location.

The Labour Force Survey standard products are:

- [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0)
- [Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery](#) (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)
- [Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly](#) (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)
- [Labour Force, Australia: Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families](#) (cat. no. 6224.0.55.001)

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Statistical significance of movements and other comparisons

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STATISTICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF MOVEMENTS AND OTHER COMPARISONS

As the estimates are based on a sample survey, published estimates and the movements derived from them are subject to sampling variability. This chapter includes commentary on movements in estimates between different time periods, as well as other comparisons between categories or geographic regions. Testing of statistical significance has not been undertaken, therefore some of the commentary may refer to movements or comparisons which are not statistically significant. Standard errors for estimates in the Labour Force Survey can be calculated by using the spreadsheet contained in [Labour Force Survey Standard Errors, Data Cube](#) (cat. no. 6298.0.55.001).

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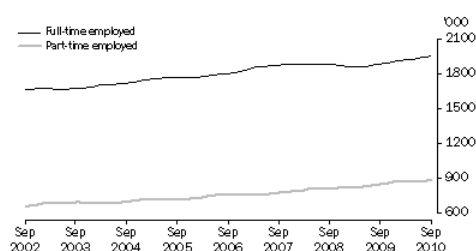
Civilian labour force by Region

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CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE BY REGION

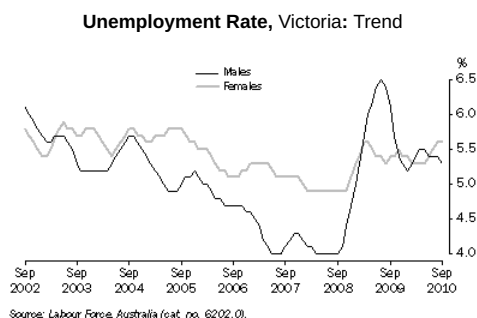
Based on trend estimates, total employment in Victoria rose by 99,900 persons (3.7%) between September 2009 and September 2010. The number of people employed full-time and part-time increased by 68,700 (3.6%) and by 31,200 (3.7%) respectively, over the same period. In September 2010, males accounted for 65.1% of full-time employed persons and 54.7% of total employed persons, while females accounted for 68.6% of part-time employed persons.

Employed Persons, Victoria: Trend

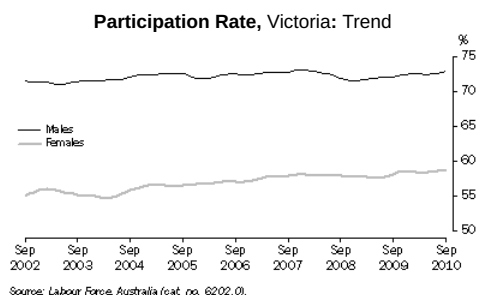


Source: [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0).

The trend estimate of the total number of unemployed persons in Victoria for September 2010 was 162,900 persons, a decrease of 4,200 persons from September 2009. This resulted in an unemployment rate of 5.4%, a decrease of 0.3 percentage points from September 2009. The female unemployment rate (5.6%) was higher than the male unemployment rate (5.3%) in September 2010.



The trend estimate of the participation rate for Victoria in September 2010 was 65.7% which was 0.6 percentage points higher than the rate recorded in September 2009. The female participation rate is historically lower than the male participation rate and in September 2010 the female and male participation rates were 58.8% and 72.9%, respectively. Between September 2009 and September 2010 the male participation rate increased by 0.7 percentage points while the female participation rate increased by 0.6 percentage points.



View underlying data as an Excel spreadsheet: Download Table 05. Labour force status by Sex - Victoria - Trend, seasonally adjusted and original from the [Downloads Page](#).

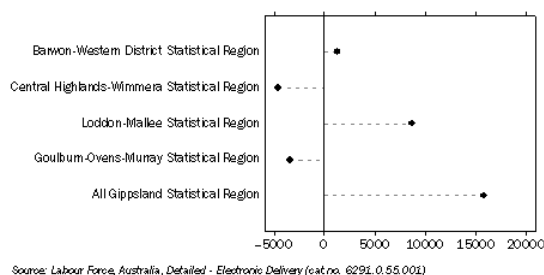
The rest of the chapter deals with original series estimates unless otherwise stated.

In the Melbourne Major Statistical Region (MSR), there was an increase in employment (98,300) and a decrease in unemployment (11,900), resulting in the labour force growing by 86,400 people (4.0%) between September 2009 and September 2010. The labour force also grew in the Balance of Victoria MSR, with an increase in both employment (17,700) and unemployment (7,300). In the Melbourne MSR, full-time and part-time employment increased by 4.7% and 5.0% respectively, while in the Balance of Victoria MSR, full-time employment increased by 4.1% and part-time employment decreased by 0.5%.

The labour force participation rate increased from 67.3% to 68.3% in the Melbourne MSR and from 67.3% to 68.3% in the Balance of Victoria MSR.

Between September 2009 and September 2010, the proportion of employed people who worked full-time remained constant (70.4%) in the Melbourne MSR, and increased from 61.7% to 62.3% in the Balance of Victoria MSR.

Change in employed persons, Labour Force Regions in Balance of Victoria - September 2009 to September 2010



Within the Balance of Victoria MSR, the All Gippsland Statistical Region (SR) recorded the largest increase in employment (15,800), followed by the Loddon-Mallee SR (8,700) while falls in employment were recorded in the Central Highlands-Wimmera SR (-4,600) and Goulburn-Ovens-Murray SR (-3,400).

View underlying data as an Excel spreadsheet: Download *Civilian labour force, By Statistical Region* from the [Downloads Page](#).

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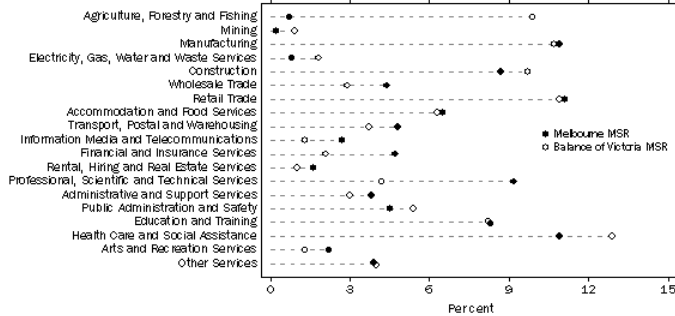
Employed persons by Industry

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EMPLOYED PERSONS BY INDUSTRY

In August quarter 2010, the largest proportion of people employed in the Melbourne MSR were in Retail Trade (11.1%), followed by Health Care and Social Assistance and Manufacturing (each 10.9%). In the Balance of Victoria MSR, the largest proportion of people were employed in Health Care and Social Assistance (12.9%), followed by Retail Trade (10.9%) and Manufacturing (10.7%).

Employed persons(a), By Industry(b) and Major Statistical Region - August quarter 2010



(a) Civilian population aged 15 years and over.
(b) Data provided on ANZSCO basis.

In Victoria, Mining (92.7%), Construction (88.2%) and Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services (78.2%) recorded the highest proportions of total males employed. Industries with the highest proportions of total females employed were Health Care and Social Assistance (80.3%) and Education and Training (71.5%).

In terms of full-time employment, Construction accounted for the highest proportion of males employed in Victoria (93.4%), and Health Care and Social Assistance accounted for the highest proportion of full-time females employed (72.2%).

The industry with the largest proportion of male part-time workers was Transport, Postal and Warehousing (63.6%), while Health Care and Social Assistance employed the largest proportion of part-time females (89.0%).

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [Download *Employed persons, By Industry and Major Statistical Region - August quarter 2010* from the Downloads Page.](#)

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Employed persons by Occupation

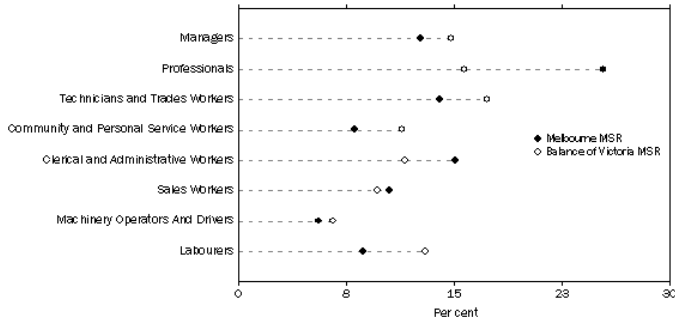
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EMPLOYED PERSONS BY OCCUPATION

In August quarter 2010, in the Melbourne MSR, more than a quarter of people were employed as Professionals (25.4%), with Clerical and Administrative Workers (15.1%), Technicians and Trades Workers (14.0%) and Managers (12.7%) being the next largest groups. In the Balance of Victoria MSR, 17.3% of employed persons were employed as Technicians and Trades Workers (17.3%) followed by Professionals (15.7%) and Managers (14.8%).

Full-time workers in Victoria worked mainly as Professionals (24.7%), Technicians and Trades Workers (18.7%) and Managers (16.6%), while part-time workers were mainly Sales Workers (19.7%), Professionals (19.1%) and Community and Personal Service Workers (16.2%).

Employed persons(a), By Occupation(b) and Major Statistical Region - August quarter 2010



(a) Civilian population aged 15 years and over.
(b) Data provided on ANZSCO basis.

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [Download *Employed persons, By Occupation and Major Statistical Region - August quarter 2010* from the Downloads Page.](#)

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Part-time workers

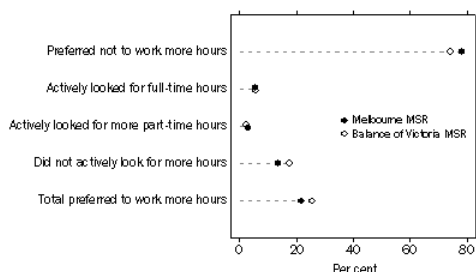
PART-TIME WORKERS

In August quarter 2010, there were 643,700 part-time workers in the Melbourne MSR - an increase of 37,400 (6.2%) since August quarter 2009.

The majority of part-time workers (78.2%) preferred not to work additional hours, and this was a more common preference amongst females (82.1%) than males (70.5%).

In the Balance of Victoria MSR, the total number of part-time workers in August quarter 2010 was 235,700, an increase of 5,400 (2.3%) since August quarter 2009. The majority of these part-time workers (74.3%) preferred not to work more hours.

Part-time workers, By Preference for more hours and Major Statistical Region - August quarter 2010



View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [Download Part time workers, By Preference for more hours, Sex and Major Statistical Region from the Downloads Page.](#)

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Duration of unemployment

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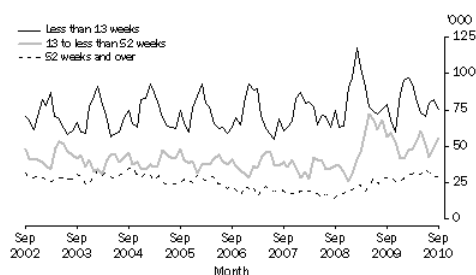
DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT

Between September 2009 and September 2010, the number of people classified as short-term unemployed (less than 13 weeks) decreased by 8,400 people (-14.3%) in the Melbourne MSR and by 4,200 people (-5.4%) in the Balance of Victoria MSR.

Over the same period, the number of people classified as medium-term unemployed (13 to less than 52 weeks) decreased by 2,400 people (-6.0%) in the Melbourne MSR and by 1,200 (-2.1%) in the Balance of Victoria MSR.

The number of people classified as long-term unemployed (52 weeks or more) decreased by 1,100 people (5.5%) in the Melbourne MSR, while the number of people increased by 800 (2.8%) in the Balance of Victoria MSR.

Unemployed persons, By Duration of unemployment - Victoria



View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [Download Unemployed persons, By Duration of unemployment, Sex and Major Statistical Region from the Downloads Page.](#)

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Small area unemployment rate estimates

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SMALL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT RATE ESTIMATES

The Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) produce unemployment rate estimates at Statistical Local Area (SLA) level, using information derived from the ABS Labour Force Survey (LFS), supplemented by small area data from the ABS Census of Population and Housing and Centrelink.

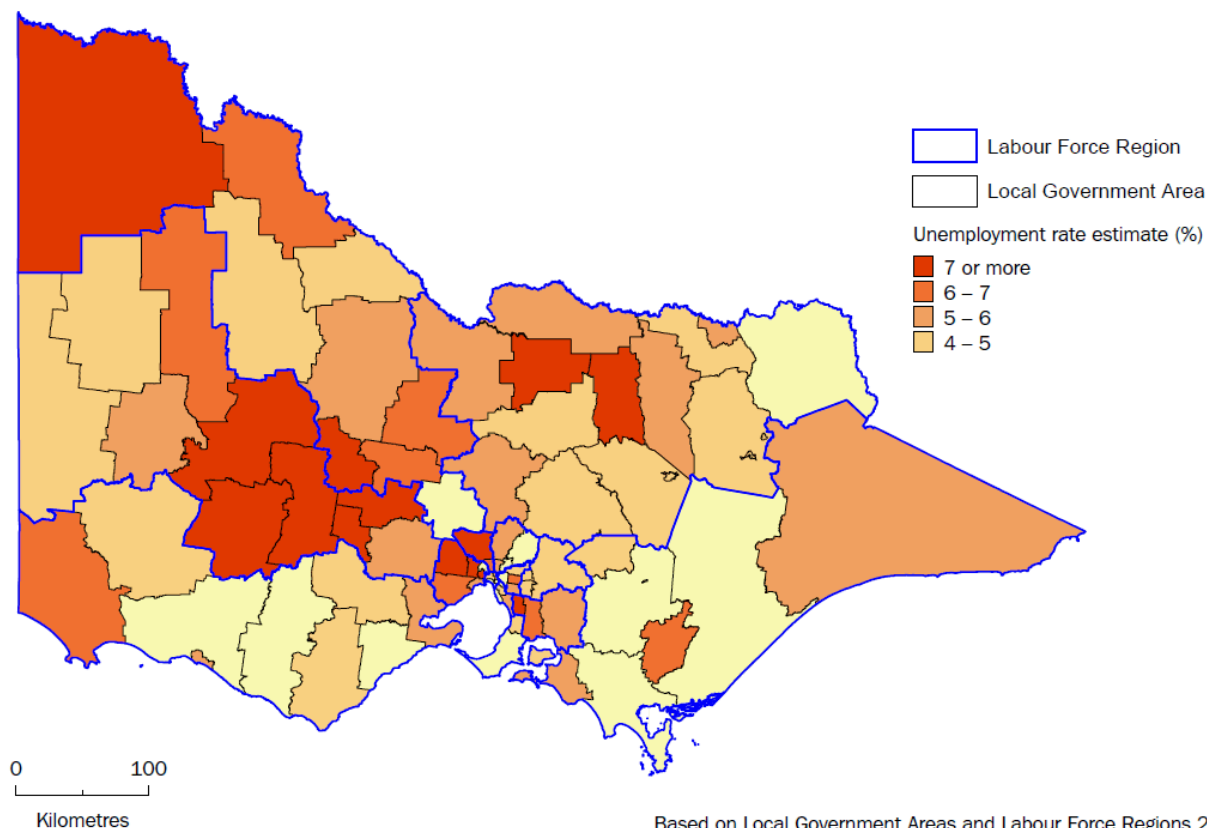
DEEWR have made the transition to the geographic classification and population benchmarks now used in the LFS (based on the 2006 Census of Population and Housing) from those used previously (based on the 2001 Census). Unemployment estimates for SLAs and aggregates thereof for periods prior to March quarter 2008 are based on 2001 Census-based population benchmarks. For most areas, there has been no impact from the change in geographic classification. Further details can be found in paragraphs 2-5 of the [Explanatory Notes](#) for further information.

The series presented in the commentary below and in the underlying table is the DEEWR 'smoothed series'. The quarterly estimates have been smoothed using a four-quarter average ending in the reference quarter. Therefore, the reference period refers to an average over the year ended the last month of the reference quarter (for example, June quarter 2009 refers to the average of the four quarters from September quarter 2008 to June quarter 2009, or the average over the year ended June 2009).

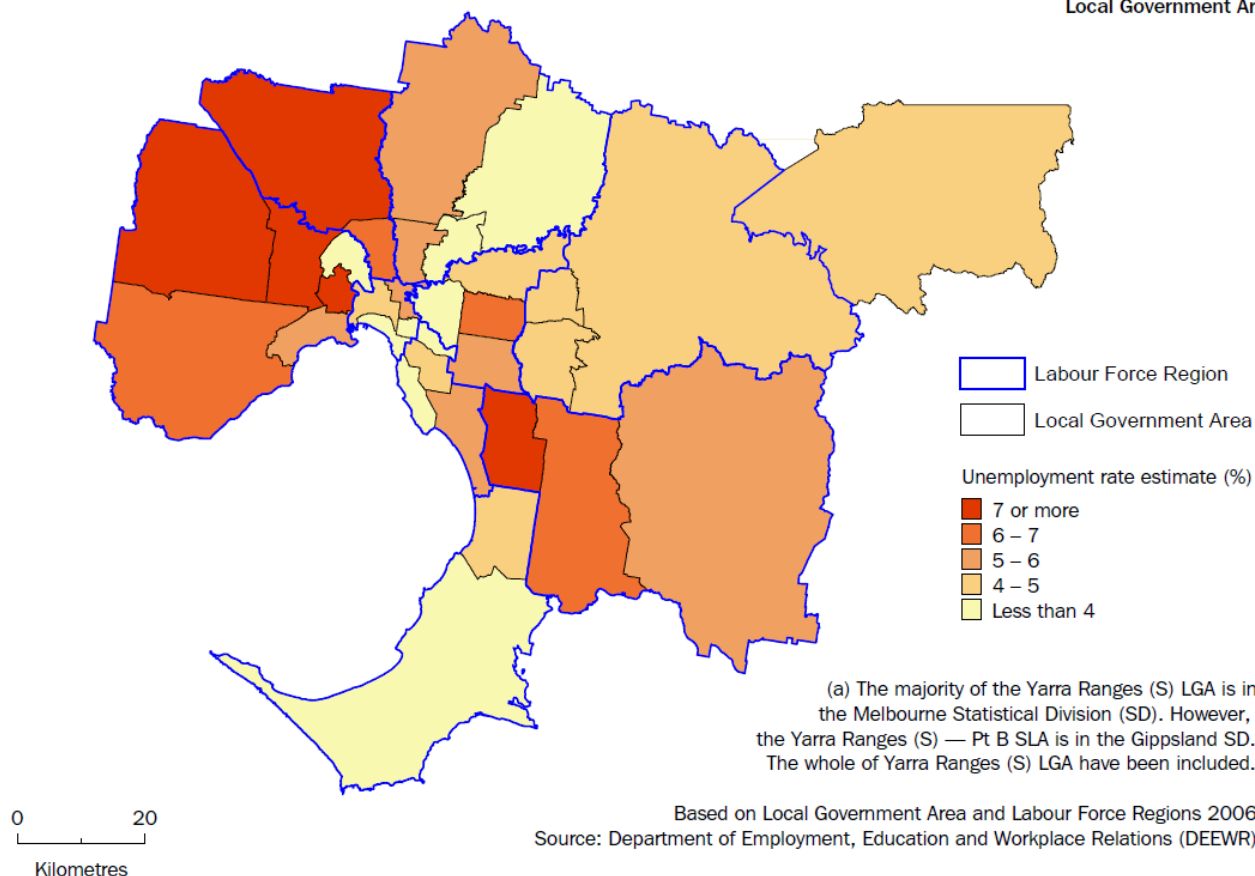
In June quarter 2010, the highest unemployment rates were recorded in the LGAs of Greater Dandenong (10.9%), Central Goldfields (10.4%) and Hume (10.0%), while the lowest unemployment rates were recorded in Nillumbik (1.8%), Stonnington (2.7%) and South Gippsland (2.9%).

Unemployment Rate Estimates, Victoria, June 2010

Local Government Areas



Based on Local Government Areas and Labour Force Regions 2006
Source: Department of Employment, Education and Workplace Relations (DEEWR)



View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [Download Estimates of unemployment rate, By Local Government Area: Smoothed series](#) from the [Downloads Page](#).

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Average weekly earnings

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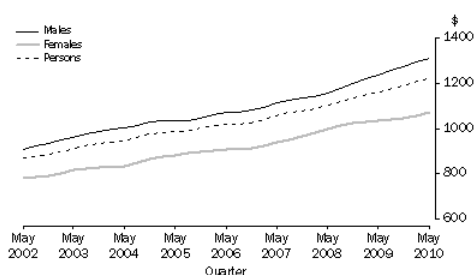
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

A sample redesign based on **Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification, 2006** (ANZSIC06) (cat. no. 1292.0) was introduced into the Average Weekly Earnings (AWE) survey in August 2009, along with some improvements to the survey frame. These changes have resulted in a shift in the level of the series. The difference in the level of the two series (ANZSIC06 and ANZSIC93) has been measured and backcast into the historical series to make a time series of estimates on an ANZSIC06 basis. Because of the extent of changes in level estimates, quarterly and annual percentage change movements for the new ANZSIC06 series are not identical to those under the old ANZSIC93 series. Differences at the state, sector and Australia levels are generally insignificant and within current released standard errors for each series.

Movements in average weekly earnings can be affected by both changes in the level of earnings per employee and changes in the composition of the labour force. For example, changes in the proportions of full-time, part-time, casual and junior employees and variations in the distribution of occupations can affect movements in earnings series. Refer to Average Weekly Earnings, Australia (cat. no. 6302.0).

In May quarter 2010, the trend estimate of average weekly full-time adult ordinary time earnings in Victoria was \$1,223.68, an increase of 5.3% from May quarter 2009. Over the same period, trend full-time adult ordinary time earnings increased by 6.0% for males and by 3.1% for females.

Average weekly full-time adult ordinary time earnings, By Sex - Victoria: Trend



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State Final Demand

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STATE FINAL DEMAND

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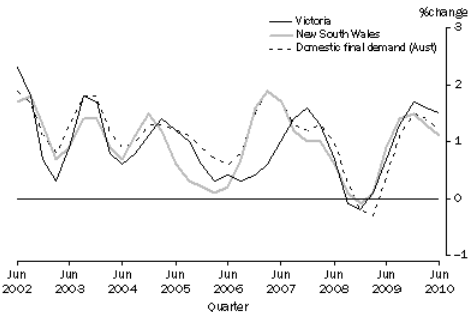
STATE FINAL DEMAND

The incorporation of more up-to-date source data and changes to seasonal adjustment factors have resulted in revisions to the previously published estimates. For details see [Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product](#), Jun 2010 (cat. no. 5206.0).

State final demand is the estimate obtained by summing government final consumption expenditure, household final consumption expenditure, private gross fixed capital formation and the gross fixed capital formation of public corporations and general government.

In June quarter 2010, the trend estimate for Victorian final demand, in volume terms, was \$76,696 million, an increase of 1.5% from March quarter 2010. This was above the trend growth for Australian domestic final demand (1.2%) and New South Wales (1.1%) over the same period.

State final demand, Chain volume measures: Trend - Change from previous quarter



Household final consumption expenditure is the largest component of state final demand, and accounted for 55.4% of the trend volume estimate in June quarter 2010. The trend volume estimate of household final consumption expenditure increased by 1.2% from the previous quarter. The other main contributors to trend state final demand in June quarter 2010 were private gross fixed capital formation (23.5%) and government final consumption expenditure (16.0%).

View underlying data as an Excel spreadsheet: Download *State final demand, Victoria, Chain volume measures: Seasonally adjusted and trend* and *State final demand, Victoria, Original* from the [Downloads Page](#).

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PRICE INDEXES

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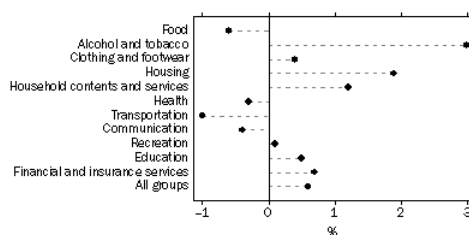
Consumer Price Index

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

Between June quarter 2010 and September quarter 2010, the All groups Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Melbourne increased by 0.6%. The groups that recorded the largest increases were: Alcohol and tobacco (3.0%), Housing (1.9%) and Household contents and services (1.2%). The groups that recorded the largest decreases were Transportation (-1.0%) and Food (-0.6%).

Change in Consumer Price Index, By Group, Melbourne - June quarter 2010 to September quarter 2010



Between September quarter 2009 and September quarter 2010, the All groups CPI for Melbourne rose by 3.1%. The All groups CPI weighted average of the eight capital cities rose by 2.8% over the same period. The biggest annual increases for Melbourne were recorded in Alcohol and tobacco (11.6%), Education (8.5%), Housing (6.5%), Health (5.7%) and Financial and insurance services (3.9%). The group that recorded the largest decrease for the year was Clothing and footwear (-3.6%), while small decreases were also recorded in Recreation (-0.6%) and Communication (-0.5%).

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [Download Consumer price index, By Group, Melbourne and Weighted average of eight capital cities](#) from the [Downloads Page](#).

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House price indexes

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HOUSE PRICE INDEXES

The price index for established houses covers transactions in detached residential dwellings on their own block of land regardless of age (i.e. includes new houses sold as a house/land package as well as second-hand houses). Price changes therefore relate to changes in the total price of dwellings and land.

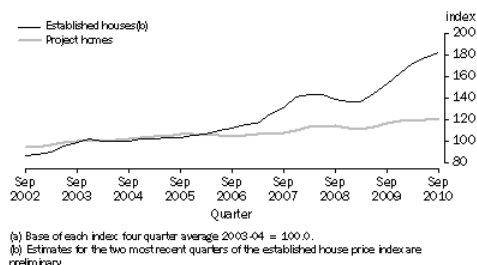
A detailed description of the concepts, sources and methods behind the established house price index can be found in [House Price Indexes: Concepts, Sources and Methods, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6464.0). This publication was re-released in December 2009, and covers the changes made in the stratification method and weights as a result of a review of the established house price index in 2007 and 2008, as well as more information on how the index is calculated and on price index concepts in general.

Project homes are dwellings available for construction on an existing block of land. Price changes relate only to the cost of constructing the dwelling (excluding land).

In September quarter 2010, the price index of project homes in Melbourne increased by 0.5% from the previous quarter. Based on preliminary estimates, the price index of established houses increased by 2.7% over the same period. Preliminary estimates of the weighted average of the eight capital cities showed an increase of 0.1% in established house prices and an increase of 0.5% in project home prices from the previous quarter.

From September quarter 2009 to September quarter 2010, established house prices in Melbourne increased by 18.8% based on preliminary estimates, and project home prices increased by 3.0%.

House price indexes(a), Melbourne



View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [Download House price indexes, Melbourne and Weighted average of eight capital cities from the Downloads Page.](#)

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Construction

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CONSTRUCTION

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Building approvals

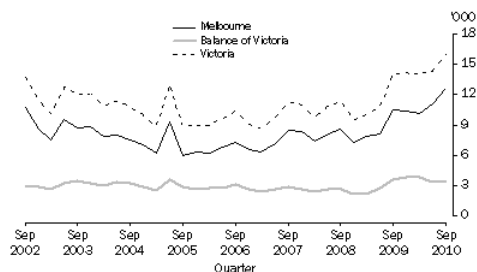
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BUILDING APPROVALS

In September quarter 2010, there were 16,072 new dwelling units approved in Victoria, of which 78.6% were in the Melbourne MSR. There were 1,677 more dwelling unit approvals (11.6%) in Victoria than in the previous quarter, and 2,052 (14.6%) more than in September quarter 2009. The number of dwelling units approved in the Melbourne MSR increased by 14.3% compared with the previous quarter and increased by 20.7% compared with September quarter 2009. In the Balance of Victoria MSR there was an increase of 100 units (3.0%) from the previous quarter but a decrease of 119 (-3.4%) from September quarter 2009.

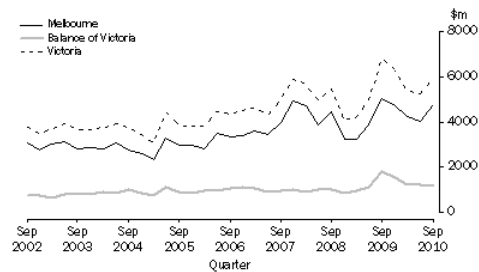
More than one quarter (27.3%) of dwelling unit approvals in the Melbourne MSR over the September quarter 2010 were in three LGAs - Wyndham (C) (1,390), Whittlesea (C) (1,092) and Melbourne (C) (964). In the Balance of Victoria MSR, the LGAs with the highest number of dwelling units approved were Greater Geelong (C) (523), Ballarat (C) (251) and Baw Baw (S) (245).

Dwelling Unit Approvals, By Major Statistical Region



At current prices, the total value of building approvals in Victoria in September quarter 2010 was \$5,922.4 million, an increase of \$695.3 million (13.3%) since June quarter 2010, but a decrease of \$888.1 million (-13.0%) compared with September quarter 2009.

Value of All Building Approvals, Current prices, By Major Statistical Region



View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: Download *Building approvals, By Local Government Area* from the [Downloads Page](#).

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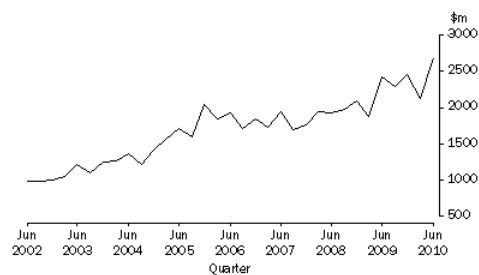
Engineering construction activity

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ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

For Victoria, the total value (at current prices) of engineering construction activity, work done, during June quarter 2010 was \$2.7 billion, an increase of 26.2% from March quarter 2010 and an increase of 11.1% over June quarter 2009. Work done for water storage and supply, sewerage and drainage made up 30.6% of the total value, while roads, highways and subdivisions made up 20.9% and electricity generation, transmission etc. and pipelines 15.9%.

Value of engineering construction work done, Current prices, Victoria



View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: Download *Engineering construction activity, By Type - Victoria: Original* from the [Downloads Page](#).

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TOURISM

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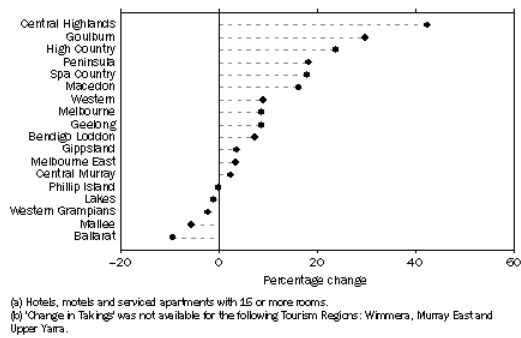
TOURIST ACCOMMODATION

In June quarter 2010, total accommodation takings for hotels, motels and serviced apartments in Victoria with 15 or more rooms were \$344.1 million, an increase of 8.1% from June quarter 2009. The Melbourne Tourism Region accounted for the majority of Victoria's accommodation takings (77.6%).

The largest percentage growth in accommodation takings between June quarter 2009 and June quarter 2010 was recorded in the Tourism Region of

Central Highlands (42.5%) followed by Goulburn (29.9%) and High Country (23.8%). Five Tourism Regions experienced a decrease over the same period, with Ballarat (-9.4%) and Mallee (-5.6%) Tourism Regions experiencing the larger decreases.

Change in takings from accommodation(a), By Tourism Region(b) - June quarter 2009 to June quarter 2010



View underlying data as an Excel spreadsheet: Download *Tourist accommodation, By Tourism Region - June quarter 2010* from the [Downloads Page](#).

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AGRICULTURE

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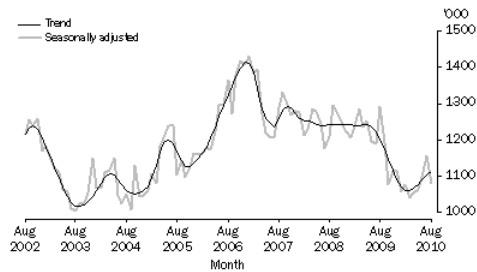
Livestock slaughtering and meat production

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LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERING AND MEAT PRODUCTION

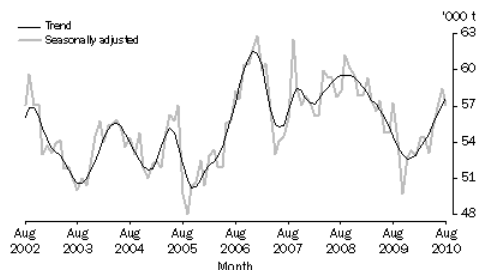
The trend estimate for the number of livestock slaughtered decreased by 89,200 (7.4%) between August 2009 and August 2010. Slaughtering of Sheep, Calves and Lambs decreased by 31.2%, 14.5% and 4.2% respectively, while slaughtering of Pigs and Cattle increased by 33.9% and 3.4%, respectively over the period.

Total livestock slaughtering, Victoria



Between August 2009 and August 2010, the trend estimate for total meat production for Victoria increased by 3167.3 tonnes (5.8%). The production of Mutton and Veal decreased by 24.4% and 11.3% respectively, while increases were recorded for Pig meat (33.8%), Beef (9.8%) and Lamb (1.2%) over the same period.

Total meat produced, Victoria



View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: Download *Livestock slaughtering and meat production, Victoria: All series* from the [Download Page](#).

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Other Agricultural Production

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OTHER AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

Statistics for Other Agriculture Production are available from the Downloads page. The data items: wool receivals, live sheep exports, chicken slaughtered and chicken meat are sourced from the ABS and the data items: milk and milk products are from non-ABS sources.

Download *Other agricultural production, Victoria* from the [Downloads Page](#).

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TRADE

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Confidentiality of merchandise trade statistics

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CONFIDENTIALITY OF MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS

The release of statistics for certain merchandise trade commodities is restricted in order to prevent the identification of the activities of an individual business, where it is requested by the business. These restrictions do not affect the total value of exports and imports for Australia, but they can affect statistics at disaggregated levels, including by state.

Prior to September 2008, import commodities with confidentiality restrictions 'No commodity details' or 'No value details' contributed to the relevant state and country totals, so that these totals showed the accurate level of trade. To ensure the confidentiality of data, this treatment changed in September 2008. Import commodities with these confidentiality restrictions are now excluded from all state-level data. Therefore, data on imports for Victoria may understate the actual amount of trade in Victoria, including the amount of trade with the state's major trading partners.

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International merchandise trade - Export data commodity prices adjustment

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INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE - EXPORT DATA COMMODITY PRICES ADJUSTMENT

International merchandise trade exports data are based on information provided by exporters to the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (Customs and Border Protection). At the time of initial reporting to Customs and Border Protection the final prices may not be known for some commodities. New contract prices that have been recently negotiated, or are still being negotiated, for commodities like iron ore and coal may not be fully reflected in the Customs and Border Protection source data. Final prices are updated progressively in recorded trade data as exporters revise the information provided to Customs and Border Protection.

It is not yet known how the recent move from annual to quarterly contracts for some exporters will impact on the reporting of information. For more information please refer to [International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia, Jun 2010](#) (cat. no. 5368.0).

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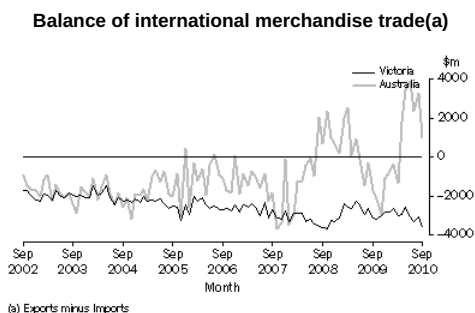
Balance of merchandise trade

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BALANCE OF MERCHANDISE TRADE

Statistics are collected for imports and exports. In this chapter, imports are presented in terms of Customs Value, while exports are presented in terms of Free on Board Value. In September 2010, the balance of international merchandise trade (i.e. the value of exports less the value of imports) for Victoria was a deficit of \$3,634m. The value of the state's merchandise exports were \$1,492m, while merchandise imports totalled \$5,125m. Compared with September 2009, Victoria's trade deficit in September 2010 was \$493m (15.7%) higher, with a rise in the value of exports (up \$33m, or 2.3%) being offset by a larger rise in the value of imports (up \$525m, or 11.4%). Victoria recorded an average monthly trade deficit of \$2,999m for the 12 months ending September 2010.

At the national level, the value of imports was 4.1% higher in September 2010 compared with September 2009, while the value of exports (including re-exports) was 21.7% higher over the same period.



In 2009-10, Victoria's trade deficit was \$34,694m, a decrease of \$1,388m (3.8%) over the previous financial year. The state's exports and imports decreased by \$1,951m (-9.6%) and \$3,339m (-5.9%) respectively.

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: Download *Balance of international merchandise trade* from the [Downloads Page](#).

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Trade by Commodity

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TRADE BY COMMODITY

More than a quarter (28.5%) of Victoria's merchandise exports in 2009-10 were Food and live animals, followed by Machinery and transport equipment (19.5%). Compared with 2008-09, only Crude materials, inedible, except fuels rose (by \$311m) while decreases were observed for all other commodity groups. The largest decreases in exports were recorded in Food and live animals (-\$651m) and Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material (-\$580m).

Food and live animals accounted for 29.7% of Victoria's exports in September quarter 2010, while Machinery and transport equipment contributed 19.7% of the total.

Imports of Machinery and transport equipment comprised 39.8% of total Victorian imports in 2009-10, more than twice the size of the next largest category (Miscellaneous manufactured articles, 16.6%). Between 2008-09 and 2009-10, imports of all commodities decreased, the largest decreases were in Miscellaneous manufactured articles (-\$1,096m) and Machinery and transport equipment (-\$556m).

In September quarter 2010, Machinery and transport equipment made up 39.8% of the state's imports, with a further 16.3% being Miscellaneous manufactured articles.

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: Download *International merchandise trade, By Commodity - Victoria* from the [Downloads Page](#).

Major trading partners

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MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS

Based on the value of trade, Victoria's biggest trading partner in 2009-10 was China, with combined exports and imports of \$12,857m. The next biggest trading partners were the United States of America, Japan, New Zealand and Germany. With the exception of New Zealand (a trade deficit of -\$355m), Victoria's largest trade deficits in 2009-10 were recorded with its biggest trading partners - China (-\$8,097m), the United States of America (-\$4,510m), Japan (-\$3,548m) and Germany (-\$3,362m). Over the same period, trade surpluses were recorded with four of the state's 30 major trading partners, Saudi Arabia (\$1,030m), United Arab Emirates (\$395m), Hong Kong (\$163m) and Philippines (\$6m).

The top five destinations of Victoria's exports in September quarter 2010 were China, New Zealand, Japan, the United States of America and the Republic of Korea. Combined, 44.6% of the state's exports in the quarter went to these countries. Over one-fifth (20.1%) of imports to Victoria came from China, with the United States of America (11.5%) and Japan (8.7%) being the next two largest sources.

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: Download *International merchandise trade, By Major trading partner - Victoria* from the [Downloads Page](#).

Environment

Contents >> Environment



ENVIRONMENT

This section contains the following subsection :

- Air quality
- Water resources

Air quality

Contents >> Environment >> Air quality

AIR QUALITY

The Air Quality Index compiled by the Victorian Environment Protection Authority describes the concentration of various pollutants relative to environmental standards. The lower the index is, the better the quality of our air. The index is available for four areas in the Port Phillip Region (East, West, City and Geelong) and the Latrobe Valley.

The Air Quality Index is made up of separate indices for each pollutant. Two of these are presented here - Visibility Reduction, and Ozone. The Visibility Reduction Pollutant Index gives a measure of the amount of fine particles in the air. These particles scatter light and reduce how far we can see. The Ozone Pollutant index tracks the amount of ozone associated with summer smog, which is harmful to human health.

In the data tables, air quality associated with these pollutants is classified as Very Good, Good, Fair, Poor or Very Poor. Incidents of Poor visibility are generally higher during the cooler months of autumn and winter (from March to August), whereas ozone levels are generally higher during the summer (from December to February). However, during periods of smoke from bushfires or planned burns, there may be a lot of particles in the air, causing the Visibility Reduction index to reach the Poor or Very Poor category during summer or autumn.

Air pollution varies a great deal from hour to hour, day to day and season to season, according to weather and pollution sources. Daily forecasts for the next day's air quality in Melbourne are available in major newspapers and on the EPA website.

More information on the air quality index can be found by visiting the EPA website: <http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/air/bulletins/aqindex.asp>

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: Download *Air quality, By Region* from the [Downloads Page](#).

Water resources

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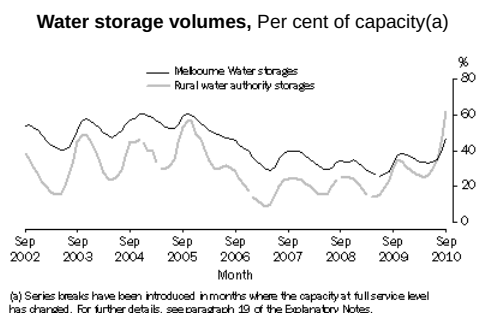
WATER RESOURCES

At the end of September 2010, Victoria's water storages were at 59.6% of their capacity at full service level of 14,020 GL. This was 13.8 percentage points higher than the level in August 2010, and 30.4 percentage points higher than in September 2009.

Melbourne's water storage level at the end of September 2010 was 46.9% of capacity. This was 5.7 percentage point higher than in August 2010 and 14.3 percentage points higher than in September 2009. Rural water storages held 62.1% of their capacity at the end of September 2010, 14.4 percentage points higher than in August 2010, and 32.2 percentage points higher than the level in September 2009.

Between September 2009 and September 2010, the volume of water held in rural water storages increased by 107.8%. Lake Eildon in the Goulburn basin captured 35.9% of this increase, with a further 36.6% of the increase being in Murray basin storages. Just under three-quarters (73.9%) of the storage capacity at full service level of Victoria's rural water storages (9,396 GL) is represented by Lake Eildon (3,390 GL) and the state's share of Murray basin storages (3,557 GL). From September 2009 to September 2010, the volume of water in Lake Eildon increased from 26.8% of capacity to 58.8%.

The total capacity of the state's storages reduced by 365 GL in April 2009 following the decommissioning of Lake Mokoan, while 38 GL was added to full capacity in June 2009 when the Tarago Reservoir was added to the Melbourne supply system. A summary of changes to total storage capacity since December 2004 can be found in paragraph 11 of the [Explanatory Notes](#).



View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [Download Water storage levels, By River Basin](#) from the [Downloads Page](#).

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Explanatory Notes

Explanatory Notes

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This quarterly publication contains data from both ABS and non-ABS sources. The ABS publications referenced within **State and Regional Indicators, Victoria**, as well as the websites of non-ABS organisations, are listed in paragraphs 22 and 23. Users are directed to these references for further information.

REGIONAL AND SMALL AREA LABOUR FORCE ESTIMATES

2 The regions in Victoria for which the ABS produces estimates from the Labour Force Survey are revised at the time of the labour force sample redesign following each Census of Population and Housing and remain stable until the next labour force sample redesign. From November 2007, these regions are consistent with the SRs in the 2006 Edition of the ASGC. Consequently, the LGA boundary change between Melbourne (C) and Moonee Valley (C) is not reflected in LFS data. There were no changes to Victorian SR boundaries between 2001 and 2006 that involved population. For further information on LFS data at regional level, please see Information Paper: Regional Labour Force Statistics (cat. no. 6262.0). Maps of SRs used in the LFS can be found in Australian Labour Market Statistics, Jul 2009 (cat. no. 6105.0) on the Downloads page (6105.0 - Labour Force Region Maps - Victoria - 2007).

3 The quarterly small area unemployment rate estimates produced by DEEWR are based on the regions used by the ABS in the LFS. Even though there were no changes to Victorian SR boundaries between 2001 and 2006, there have been changes to LGA boundaries involving population which may have impacted on the small area unemployment rate time series. These boundary changes have been incorporated into the estimates for the smoothed series (the series included in this publication) from September quarter 2008, and have not been backcast to earlier periods. In Victoria, the affected LGAs are:

- Alpine (S) - previously included Falls Creek and Mount Hotham Alpine Resorts (estimated resident population of 163 at 30 June 2003);
- Benalla (RC) - previously part of Delatite (S);
- Mansfield (S) - previously part of Delatite (S); and
- Unincorporated Vic. - previously only French Island, now includes Falls Creek, Mount Baw Baw, Mount Buller and Mount Hotham Alpine Resorts.

4 Changes to SLA boundaries between 2001 and 2006 have affected the timing of the introduction of new LFS population benchmarks based on the 2006 Census of Population and Housing into the small area unemployment rate time series for the LGAs of Baw Baw (S), Campaspe (S), Colac-Otway (S), Greater Bendigo (C), Knox (C), Whittlesea (C) and Yarra Ranges (S). For these LGAs, the new benchmarks have been incorporated from September quarter 2008, which is two quarters later than other LGAs. The new benchmarks for Alpine (S) and Unincorporated Vic. have also been introduced from September quarter 2008.

5 The boundary changes to geographic areas and new population benchmarks described above were first introduced into the small area unemployment rate time series in March quarter 2009, with data for previous periods being revised back to either March quarter 2008 or September quarter 2008.

TOURISM REGIONS

6 Tourism Regions are defined by relevant state/territory tourism organisations and represent groups of SLAs. Each year, any changes to Tourism Regions (including SLA boundary changes incorporated in the current edition of the ASGC) are applied from the first reference period of the Survey of Tourist Accommodation in the following calendar year (i.e. the March quarter). For a map of Victorian Tourism Regions, and a listing of SLAs within each Tourism Region, please see [Tourism Region Maps and Concordance Files, Australia](#) (cat. no. 9503.0.55.001).

AIR QUALITY

7 The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) reports air quality as an index for any given pollutant as its concentration expressed as a percentage of the relevant standard. It enables easy interpretation of whether the pollutant is at a level which may cause harm. An index value of 100 means the pollutant is currently at a concentration equal to the National Environment Protection Measure (Air NEPM) or State Environment Protection Policy (The Air Environment) (SEPP) standard levels (levels designed to protect human health and the environment). Indexes are calculated separately for each measured pollutant: Ozone, Nitrogen Dioxide, Sulfur Dioxide, Carbon Monoxide, Fine Particulates (PM10), Visibility (Airborne Particle Index). For each station, the daily pollutant indexes are the maximum index values for that day. Note that not all pollutants are measured at each station. The EPA also calculates an overall Air Quality Index, which amalgamates each pollutant index into an overall measure of air quality at each station.

8 The air quality data have been provided for the Ozone and Visibility (or Airborne Particle) Indexes as these are the dominant pollutants and are widely measured across the EPA network. It should also be noted that meteorological conditions are a major determinant on the incidence of elevated pollutant levels. Hence significant daily, seasonal and annual variations can be expected in air quality. For more information on air quality, see the [EPA web site](#).

9 The air quality index is converted into a qualitative scale with five commonly understood terms. Very good (0-33), Good (34-66) and Fair (67-99) represent measurements within the standards, while Poor (100-149) and Very poor (150+) represent measurements exceeding the standards.

10 For air quality reporting purposes the Port Phillip Region (PPR) has been divided into 4 regions: East, West, City and Geelong. Air monitoring stations assigned to each region are: East - Alphington, Brighton, Box Hill, Dandenong, Mooroolbark; City - RMIT, Richmond; West - Footscray, Melton, Point Cook, Paisley; Geelong - Point Henry, Geelong South. In addition, the Latrobe Valley has stations at Moe and Traralgon. The regional index is considered to be the maximum of the station indexes calculated within each particular region. The daily index reported for a region is the maximum region index recorded each day.

CHANGES IN CAPACITY OF WATER STORAGES

11 The capacity at full service level of Victoria's water storages changes periodically due to a number of factors including the commissioning and decommissioning of reservoirs, and the review of operational storage capacities of reservoirs. A summary of changes affecting capacity at full service level is given below.

- **December 2004:** Capacity of storages in Werribee and Maribyrnong basins reduced by 7 GL;
- **April 2005:** Capacity of Glenelg/Wimmera basin storages reduced by 24 GL;
- **January 2007:** Moondarra Reservoir (capacity 30 GL, initial storage volume 23 GL) added to the Thomson/Latrobe basin;
- **September 2008:** Glenmaggie Reservoir (Thomson/Latrobe basin) capacity reduced by 12 GL;
- **April 2009:** Lake Mokoan (Broken basin, capacity 365 GL) decommissioned;
- **June 2009:** Tarago Reservoir (capacity 38 GL, initial storage volume 22 GL) added to the Melbourne supply system.

MELBOURNE METROPOLITAN AREA

12 Most of the small area data provided by non-ABS organisations are aggregates at Local Government Area (LGA) level. With one exception, LGAs do not cross Statistical Division (SD) boundaries, and therefore it is generally possible to form SD data from aggregate LGA data. However, while the majority of the Yarra Ranges (S) LGA is in the Melbourne SD, the Yarra Ranges (S) - Pt B SLA is in the Gippsland SD. As a result, in these instances it is not possible to derive data for Melbourne and Gippsland SDs as exactly defined in the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) (cat. no. 1216.0).

13 Where necessary, the Yarra Ranges (S) LGA as a whole is included with the LGAs in Melbourne SD to form a region referred to as the Melbourne Metropolitan Area (MMA). Consequently, in these instances Gippsland SD excludes Yarra Ranges (S) - Pt B SLA.

14 As an indication of the relative size of Yarra Ranges (S) - Pt B SLA, at 30 June 2009 it had a preliminary estimated resident population (ERP) of 623 persons. At the same date, the total ERP of Yarra Ranges (S) LGA was 148,912, while Gippsland SD had a total ERP of 174,671.

GEOGRAPHY AND MAPS

15 Maps of SLAs, SSDs and SDs within Victoria can be found in [Australian Standard Geographical Classification](#) (ASGC) July 2009 (cat. no. 1216.0) on the Downloads page (1216.0 - 2009 ASGC - Victorian Maps). A listing of SLAs within each LGA (Local Government Areas and Statistical Local Areas - Alphabetic) can be accessed from the same page, along with listings of SLAs within each SD (Main Structure - Detailed) and Statistical Region (SR) (Statistical Region Structure - Detailed).

16 Unless otherwise indicated, boundaries of LGAs, SDs and SRs referred to in this publication are consistent with those in the 2009 Edition of the ASGC. The most recent change to an LGA boundary in Victoria was effective from 1 July 2008 and involved Melbourne (C) gaining 111.8 hectares (and 5,712 persons based on preliminary ERP at 30 June 2008) from Moonee Valley (C).

Thematic maps

17 This publication contains maps illustrating selected characteristics relating to the population in LGAs. For each map, five class intervals, each with a different colour shade, have been used to help interpret the distribution of the characteristic being mapped. LGAs with similar values are grouped in the same class, and the number of LGAs in each class will vary depending on the distribution of the population being mapped.

18 Each map contains a legend showing the colour and values for each class of the mapped data. For simplicity, the ranges are shown as, for example, '9 - 16' and '16 - 23'. These should be read as 'from 9 to less than 16' and 'from 16 to less than 23'. Individual values appear in one range only.

ABS PUBLICATIONS

19 The following ABS publications are referenced in this release of **State and Regional Indicators, Victoria**:

- **Retail Trade, Australia** (cat. no. 8501.0)
- **Labour Price Index, Australia** (cat. no. 6345.0)
- **Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia** (cat. no. 9314.0)
- **Australian Demographic Statistics** (cat. no. 3101.0)
- **Births, Australia** (cat. no. 3301.0)
- **Deaths, Australia** (cat. no. 3302.0)
- **Labour Force, Australia** (cat. no. 6202.0)
- **Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery** (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)
- **Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly** (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)
- **Average Weekly Earnings, Australia** (cat. no. 6302.0)
- **Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product** (cat. no. 5206.0)

- [Consumer Price Index, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6401.0)
- [House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities](#) (cat. no. 6416.0)
- [Building Activity, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8752.0)
- [Building Approvals, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8731.0)
- [Engineering Construction Activity, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8762.0)
- [Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, Victoria](#) (cat. no. 8635.2.55.001)
- [Livestock Products, Australia](#) (cat. no. 7215.0)
- [Livestock and Meat, Australia](#) (cat. no. 7218.0.55.001)
- [International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia](#) (cat. no. 5368.0)

NON-ABS WEBSITES

20 The websites of the following organisations may provide further information on some of the data provided in this release of **State and Regional Indicators, Victoria**:

- [Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations \(DEEWR\)](#)
- [Dairy Australia](#)
- [Environment Protection Authority, Victoria](#)
- [Department of Sustainability and Environment, Victoria](#)
- [Victoria Police](#)

Glossary

GLOSSARY

Chain volume measures

Annually-reweighted chain Laspeyres volume price indexes referenced to the current price values in a chosen reference year (i.e. the year when the quarterly chain volume measures sum to the current price annual values). Chain Laspeyres volume measures are compiled by linking together (compounding) movements in volumes, calculated using the average prices of the previous financial year, and applying the compounded movements to the current price estimates of the reference year.

Generally, chain volume measures are not additive. In other words, component chain volume measures do not sum to a total in the way original current price components do. In order to minimize the impact of this property, the ABS uses the latest base year as the reference year. By adopting this approach, additivity exists for the period following the reference year and non-additivity is relatively small for the years immediately preceding. A change in reference year changes levels but not growth rates, although some revision to recent growth rates can be expected because of the introduction of a more recent base year (and revisions to the current price estimates underlying the chain volume measures).

Deficit and surplus

A deficit occurs when the sum of all debit entries exceeds the sum of all credit entries, and a surplus occurs when the sum of all credit entries exceeds the sum of all debit entries. The term deficit (or surplus) can therefore be used in relation to various balances, e.g. balance of trade.

Duration of unemployment

The elapsed period to the end of the reference week since a person began looking for work, or since a person last worked for two weeks or more, whichever is the shorter. Brief periods of work (of less than two weeks) since the person began looking for work are disregarded.

Employed

Persons aged 15 years and over who, during the reference week:

- worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind, in a job or business or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers);
- worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers);
- were employees who had a job but were not at work and were:
 - away from work for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week;
 - away from work for more than four weeks up to the end of the reference week and received pay for some or all of the four week period to the end of the reference week;
 - away from work as a standard work or shift arrangement;
 - on strike or locked out;
 - on workers' compensation and expected to return to their job;
- were employers or own account workers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

Part-time workers

Employed persons who usually worked less than 35 hours a week (in all jobs) and either did so during the reference week, or were not at work in the reference week.

Particles as PM₁₀

Particles with an aerodynamic diameter of 10 micrometres or less.

Photochemical oxidants and ozone

'Photochemical oxidants' is the technical term for the type of smog found in Australian cities during the warmer months of the year. This type of smog can be invisible or it can appear as a whitish haze.

Photochemical oxidants are formed when sunlight falls on a mixture of chemicals in the air. Ozone is one of the main photochemical oxidants. Other chemicals such as formaldehyde are also found and, like ozone, have adverse health effects. Environment agencies measure the level of ozone because it indicates the total amount of photochemical oxidants in the air. Cities that have abundant sunshine over periods of time, together with moderate winds and high temperatures, are most likely to experience high levels of photochemical oxidants.

Ozone is a gas that is formed when nitrogen oxides react with a group of air pollutants known as 'reactive organic substances' in the presence of sunlight. The chemicals that react to form ozone come from sources such as: motor vehicle exhaust, oil refining, printing, petrochemicals, lawn mowing, aviation, bushfires and burning off. Motor vehicle exhaust fumes produce as much as 70% of the nitrogen oxides and 50% of the organic chemicals that form ozone.

(Source: Australian Government Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts, <<http://www.environment.gov.au>>)

Re-exports

Re-exports are defined as goods, materials or articles originally imported into Australia which are exported in either the same condition in which they were imported, or after undergoing some minor operations (e.g. blending, packaging, bottling, cleaning and sorting) which leave them essentially unchanged. Included in international merchandise export statistics.

Seasonal adjustment

A means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variations from economic time series so that the effects of other influences are obvious. Seasonal variations are the systematic (though not necessarily regular) intra-year movements of economic time series. These are often the result of non-economic phenomena, such as climatic changes and regular religious festivals (e.g. Christmas and Easter).

State final demand

Conceptually identical to domestic final demand at the national level (the sum of private and government final consumption expenditure and private and public gross fixed capital formation).

National estimates are based on the concepts and conventions embodied in the System of National Accounts, 1993, but for regional (including state) estimates there is no separate international standard. Although national concepts are generally applicable to state accounts, there remain several conceptual and measurement issues that either do not apply or are insignificant nationally. Most of the problems arise in the measurement of gross state product for the transport and storage, communication services, and finance and insurance industries, where production often takes place across state borders. In these cases, a number of conceptual views can be applied to the allocation of value added by state. For more information, see chapter 28 of [Australian System of National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods](#) (cat. no. 5216.0).

Trend estimates

Smoothing seasonally adjusted series produces a measure of trend by removing the impact of the irregular component of the series. The trend estimates are derived by applying a 13-term Henderson weighted moving average to the respective seasonally adjusted series. Readers are reminded that trend estimates are subject to revision as subsequent months' data become available.

Unemployed

Persons aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the reference week, and:

- had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week and:
 - were available for work in the reference week;
 - were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week, and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.

Abbreviations

ABBREVIATIONS

'000	thousand
\$'000	thousand dollars
\$m	million dollars
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ANZSCO	Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations
ANZSIC06	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification, 2006 Edition
ASGC	Australian Standard Geographical Classification
Aust.	Australia
B	Borough
BoV	Balance of Victoria
BPM6	Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual, Sixth Edition0
cat. no.	Catalogue number
C	City
COAG	Council of Australian Governments
CPI	consumer price index
DEEWR	Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations
DPS	Department of Parliamentary Services
excl.	excluding
EPA	Environment Protection Authority
ERP	estimated resident population
FT	full-time
GL	gigalitres
LFS	Labour Force Survey
LGA	local government area
LPG	liquefied petroleum gas
m	million
MMA	Melbourne Metropolitan Area
MSR	major statistical region
n.e.c.	not elsewhere classified
no.	number
NEPM	National Environment Protection Measure
NSW	New South Wales
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
Pt	Part
qtr	quarter
Qld	Queensland
RC	Rural City
S	Shire
SD	statistical division
SEPP	State Environment Protection Policy
SESCA08	Standard Economic Sector Classifications of Australia 2008
SITC	Standard International Trade Classification
SLA	statistical local area

SNA08	System of National Accounts 2008 version
SNA93	System of National Accounts 1993
SR	statistical region
Vic.	Victoria
WA	Western Australia

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